



United States Attorney
Western District of Tennessee

800 Federal Building 167 North Main Street Memphis, Tennessee 38103 Telephone 901.544.4231 Fax 901.544.4230 TTY 901.544.3054

## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: CONTACT: Leigh Anne Jordon (901) 544-4231

## Paris Man Sentenced to 88 Months and \$675,000 in Restitution

<u>Jackson</u>, <u>TN-</u> Terrell L. Harris, United States Attorney for the Western District of Tennessee, announced today that James Gary Davidson was sentenced today by Chief Judge James D. Todd in Jackson, Tennessee. Judge Todd ordered Davidson to serve 88 months in prison, followed by 2 years of supervised release. During the hearing, Davidson paid in restitution to a number of named victims totaling \$675,000.

Davidson pled guilty in March 4, 2002, to one count of mail fraud and one count of money laundering in the middle of his trial that began February 25, 2002. According to the Agreed Factual Basis filed during the plea hearing, Davidson admitted that he devised a scheme to defraud and obtain money by false pretenses from various persons interested in a cancer treatment, knowing full well these representations were false when he made them. He also admitted that he misrepresented his education and background by falsely stating he had obtained a doctorate in physics and stating he had worked for the Central Intelligence Agency. As part of

his scheme, Davidson lead individuals to believe they were free of, or had been "cleared" of cancer.

In sentencing Davidson, Judge Todd stated that Davidson's crime was exceptionally cruel because although his claims were unbelievable, his victims were desperate people looking for hope. Davidson is to report to prison as instructed by the Bureau of Prisons.

U. S. Attorney Harris would like to give special thanks to Special Agent Larry Loftis of the Food and Drug Administration-Office of Criminal Investigation, Special Agent Kay Frye of the IRS-Criminal Investigation, Postal Inspector Steve Orr of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and Special Agent Greg Franklin of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant U.S. Attorney Leigh Grinalds prosecuted the case for the government.

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